

CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
Full Contact Martial Arts and Kickboxing

ORDER OF ADOPTION

Amend Chapter 2 of Division 2 of Title 4, California Code of Regulations, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2. FULL CONTACT MARTIAL ARTS AND KICKBOXING

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

500. Citation.

The rules in this subchapter shall be cited and referred to as the "Professional Full Contact Martial Arts and Kickboxing Rules."

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18763 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

501. Applicability of Rules; Definitions.

The rules in this subchapter shall apply to all professional full contact martial arts and kickboxing contests or matches. For purposes of this chapter, the term "kickboxing" has the meaning given in Section 18627(b) of the code and the term "martial arts" means unarmed full-contact martial arts, other than kickboxing, which permit the use of a mix of techniques from different disciplines, including but not limited to the use of chokeholds, joint manipulation and grappling techniques.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18627, 18761 and 18768, Business and Professions Code.

502. Certain Boxing Rules Not Applicable.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, all of the ~~The following~~ professional boxing rules ~~do not~~ apply to martial arts or kickboxing contests or matches except the following: Sections 242, 298, 306, 309 through 313, 322, 337, 338, 339, 349 through 351, 357, and 400 through 416.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, all of the professional boxing rules apply to kickboxing contests or matches except the following: Sections 242, 298, 306, 309 through 313, 322, 337, 338, 339, 357, and 400 through 416.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18627, 18761, 18763, 18765, 18766, 18767 and 18768, Business and Professions Code.

503. Tournament or Elimination Format Contests--Selection of Opponents

In any tournament or elimination format contest, the commission shall determine the initial opponents in the first round of the tournament by drawing names at the weigh-in.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640, 18763, and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

ARTICLE 2. SAFETY STANDARDS

510. Weights and Classes.

MALES

Atomweight (Willie wt.).....	106 lbs. Or under
Super Atomweight (Willie wt.)....	106.1-109 lbs.
Flyweight.....	109.1-112 lbs. <u>through 125 lbs.</u>
Super Flyweight.....	112.1-115 lbs.
Bantamweight.....	115.1-118 lbs. <u>125.1 - 135 lbs.</u>
Super Bantamweight.....	118.1-122 lbs.
Featherweight.....	122.1-126 lbs. <u>135.1 - 145 lbs.</u>
Super Featherweight.....	126.1-130 lbs.

Lightweight.....	130.1-135 lbs.	<u>145.1 - 155 lbs.</u>
Super Lightweight.....	135.1-140 lbs.	
Welterweight.....	140.1-147 lbs.	<u>155.1 - 170 lbs.</u>
Super Welterweight.....	147.1-154 lbs.	
Middleweight.....	154.1-161 lbs.	<u>170.1 - 185 lbs.</u>
Super Middleweight.....	161.1-168 lbs.	
Light Heavyweight.....	168.1-175 lbs.	<u>185.1 - 205 lbs.</u>
Super Light Heavyweight.....	175.1-183 lbs.	
Cruiser Weight.....	183.1-195 lbs.	
Heavyweight.....	195.1-215 lbs.	<u>205.1 - 265 lbs.</u>
Super Heavyweight.....	215.1	<u>265.1 lbs. A</u> and over

The following weight spread is permissible for matchmaking within each weight division. Any greater weight spread requires the approval of the commission.

Atomweight.....	not more than 3 lbs.
Super Atomweight.....	not more than 3 lbs.
Flyweight.....	not more than 3 lbs.
Super Flyweight.....	not more than 3 lbs.
Bantamweight.....	not more than 3 lbs.
Super Bantamweight.....	not more than 4 lbs.
Featherweight.....	not more than 4 lbs.
Super Featherweight.....	not more than 4 lbs.
Lightweight.....	not more than 5 lbs.
Super Lightweight.....	not more than 5 lbs.
Welterweight.....	not more than 7 lbs.
Super Welterweight.....	not more than 7 lbs.
Middleweight.....	not more than 7 lbs.
Super Middleweight.....	not more than 7 lbs.
Light Heavyweight.....	not more than 7 lbs.
Super Light Heavyweight....	not more than 7 lbs.
Cruiserweight.....	not more than 12 lbs.
Heavyweight.....	not more than 20 lbs.
Super Heavyweight.....	no limit

FEMALES

<u>Lightweight.....</u>	<u>through 125 lbs.</u>
<u>Middleweight.....</u>	<u>125.1 - 135 lbs.</u>
<u>Light-Heavyweight.....</u>	<u>135.1 - 150 lbs.</u>

Heavyweight.....150.1 - 175 lbs.

Super Heavyweight.....175.1 lbs. and over

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

512. Rounds; Number; Length; Rest Period.

~~Matches shall not exceed ten two-minute rounds with a one-minute rest period between rounds; however, the commission may permit an additional two rounds for the purpose of championship events.~~

(a) Non-title kickboxing bouts shall not exceed 10 rounds, each round not to exceed 3 minutes, with a rest period of not less than one minute nor more than 2 minutes, as specified by the sanctioning body. Except with the approval of the commission, pursuant to Section 18748 of the code, title bouts shall not exceed the maximum length or number of rounds specified in this subsection and in no event shall the rest period between rounds be less than one minute.

(b) Non-title martial arts bouts other than kickboxing shall not exceed 5 rounds, each round not to exceed 5 minutes, with a rest period of not less than one minute nor more than 2 minutes, as specified by the sanctioning body. Except with the approval of the commission, pursuant to Section 18748 of the code, title bouts shall not exceed the maximum length or number of rounds specified in this subsection and in no event shall the rest period between rounds be less than one minute.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

513. Contestants Fighter's Equipment.

~~(a) Male contestants shall wear a foul-proof groin protector. A plastic cup with an athletic supporter is adequate, but an abdominal guard is preferable. Female contestants shall wear foul-proof breast protectors. Plastic breast covers are adequate. Female contestants shall also wear a pelvic protective girdle which shall cover the pubic area, ovaries, coccyx and sides of hips. All contestants shall wear fitted mouthpieces. All contestants shall have short fingernails and toenails. Use of padded footgear that covers the toes is mandatory and shin protectors are optional as agreed in the contract between the martial arts fighter and the promoter.~~

~~(b) Contestants shall have at least one extra pair of shorts in an opposing color with them at a match, contest, or exhibition.~~

(a) The ring costume for each fighter on a program shall be approved by the commission and shall include two pairs of trunks and a custom-made individually fitted mouthpiece. Commission staff shall not approve ring costumes that are so similar as to possibly cause confusion as to the identity of the contenders.

(b) A fighter who is participating in a kickboxing contest may, at his or her option, use padded footgear and/or shin protectors. Shoes may not be worn either in martial arts contests or in kickboxing contests.

(c) In addition to the items described in subsection (a), the costume for each male fighter shall include a foul-proof groin protector.

(d) In addition to the items described in subsection (a), the costume for each female fighter shall include a body shirt.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

514. Gloves.

~~Contestants who weigh 147 pounds or less shall wear eight (8) ounce gloves.~~

~~Contestants who weigh more than 147 pounds shall wear ten (10) ounce gloves.~~

(a) Fighters in kickboxing contests in all weights up to and including heavyweight class shall wear no less than eight-ounce gloves. In heavier classes, fighters shall wear no less than ten-ounce gloves. When two contestants differ in weight classes, the contestants shall wear the gloves required for the higher weight classification.

(b) A fighter in a martial arts contest shall wear gloves that have no padding in the palm or fingertip area and that are appropriate in weight for the fighter's hand size.

(c) All gloves must be approved by the commission.

(d) No gloves shall be required for those martial arts disciplines that prohibit striking or punching.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

ARTICLE 3. CONDUCT OF MATCHES, CONTESTS AND EXHIBITIONS

515. Time Between Bouts.

Unless written approval is obtained from the commission, a fighter who has competed in a bout or tournament format event anywhere in the world shall not be allowed to compete in this state until seven days have elapsed from the date of that bout or event.
This limitation shall not be construed to prohibit a fighter from competing in a tournament

format event that requires the fighter to rest a minimum of 30 minutes between bouts. In a tournament format event, a fighter shall be examined by a physician before each bout.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 18765, Business and Professions Code.

516. Method of Scoring When There is an Injury Not Resulting From a Foul.

If the referee determines that the injured fighter was responsible for his own injury, the referee will not penalize his opponent in any manner. In this case, if the referee or ring physician determines that the injured fighter is unable to continue, he will lose by “technical knockout”.

If the referee determines that no fault was attributable to either fighter, the referee shall allow the injured fighter 5 minutes to recover. If, at the end of the recovery period, the referee or the ringside physician determines that the injured fighter cannot continue, the bout will be decided on the score cards if a majority of the rounds have been completed (including the round in which the injury occurred) or, if a majority of the rounds have not been completed, the bout will be called a technical draw.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

517. Intentional Fouling.

(a) In the case of an intentional foul, the referee may interrupt the bout for the purpose of allowing the injured fighter time to recover. A maximum of five (5) minutes of recovery time will be permitted.

(b) If the injured fighter is thereafter unable to continue, the offending fighter shall be disqualified, his or her purse may be withheld, and he or she may be subject to

suspension. Disposition of the purse and the penalty to be imposed upon the fighter shall be determined by action of the commission or the commission's representative.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640, 18707 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

518. Unintentional Fouling.

(a) When a bout is interrupted due to an injury caused by an unintentional foul, the referee, in consultation with the ringside physician, shall determine whether the fighter who has been fouled can continue or not. If the referee sees, or if after consultation with the judges, determines that a fighter is unintentionally fouled and if the fighter's chance of winning has not been seriously jeopardized as a result of a foul, the referee may order the bout continued after a reasonable interval, not to exceed 5 minutes.

(b) If the referee and/or the ringside physician determines that the bout may not continue because of an injury suffered as the result of an unintentional foul or because of an injury inflicted by an unintentional foul which later becomes aggravated by fair blows, the bout shall be declared a draw, if according to the score cards, the bout was determined to be a draw at the time the foul occurred. If, according to the score cards, the fighter committing the foul was winning prior to the foul, the bout shall be declared a technical draw. If, according to the score cards, the fighter being fouled was winning prior to the foul, then that fighter shall be declared the winner.

(c) When an unintentional foul causes the bout to be interrupted for the purpose of allowing the injured fighter time to recover, the referee shall penalize the fighter guilty of the foul one or more points.

Note: Authority cited: Section 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

519. Suspected Fouls.

If an injury occurs due to a suspected foul that the referee was unable to see, the referee may, in his sole discretion, confer with the judges to determine where the foul may be placed. He may consider any, all or none of the opinions expressed in making his determination. The referee may, in his sole discretion, ask for a replay, if television equipment is available, of the technique in question before rendering his decision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

520. Method of Judging.

~~When judging a martial arts contest, a judge shall give weight to executed punches and kicks. On close or evenly scored rounds, greater weight shall be given to the fighter with the most effective kicks.~~

Referees and judges shall score all contests and determine the winner through the use of the ten-point must system. In this system, the winner of each round receives ten points and the opponent a proportionately less number. If the round is even, each fighter receives ten points. No fraction of points may be given.

At the termination of the contest or the termination of each round, as determined by the commission's representative present at the event, the cards of the judges shall be picked up by the referee and delivered to the commission representative assigned to check the totals. The majority opinion shall be conclusive and if there is no majority then

the decision shall be a draw. When the commission representative has completed verifying the score, the ring announcer shall be informed of the decision and shall announce the decision.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640, 18761 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.

~~521. Minimum Kicking Requirement--Kickboxing Contests.~~

~~Each contestant shall execute a minimum of five kicks during the course of each round. If either fighter does not execute his or her minimum kicks, he or she may receive a warning or point deduction at the discretion of the referee.~~

~~Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18627 and 18640, Business and Professions Code.~~

522. Fouls.

(a) **Fouls in kickboxing and martial arts.** The following tactics are fouls in both kickboxing and martial arts and are forbidden. Use of these tactics shall result in a warning and loss of points as determined by the referee.

(1) Headbutts,

~~(2) elbow strikes, or clubbing, kicks or punches or any other strikes to the groin,~~
~~attacking with the knees, Striking downward using point of the elbow.~~

~~(3) openhand~~ Openhand attacks to the eyes or throat or eye gouging. ;

~~(4) and striking~~ Striking at that part of the body over the kidney or spine or chopping
or striking the back of the neck or head.

~~(2)~~ (5) Spitting, ~~biting~~ or, in the referee's discretion, slapping.

~~(3) Palm heel strikes (using the heel of the palm of the hand to deliver a blow to the face).~~

- ~~(4) Arm bars.~~
- ~~(5) Grabbing or holding onto an opponent's leg or foot, and grabbing or holding onto any other part of the body.~~
- ~~(6) Punching or kicking of a contestant when he or she is down. A contestant is down when any part of his or her body, other than his or her feet, touch the floor. His or her opponent may continue to attack until the contestant has touched the floor with any part of the body other than the feet.~~
- ~~(7) Leg Checking. (Extending the leg to check an opponent's leg or to prevent him from kicking.)~~
- ~~(8) Purposely going down without being hit.~~
- ~~(9) (6) The use of abusive language in the ring.~~
- ~~(10) (7) Any unsportsmanlike trick or action that causes any injury to an opponent or referee.~~
- ~~(11) (8) Attacking on the break.~~
- ~~(12) (9) Attacking after the bell or gong has sounded ending the round, or when the opponent is out of the ring.~~
- ~~(13) (10) Intentionally pushing, shoving or wrestling an opponent out of the ring with any part of the body.~~
- ~~(14) Failure to make five kicks per round.~~
- ~~(15) (11) Kicks to the joints, linear strikes to the legs and linear strikes across both legs simultaneously. Linear kicks to the front or side of the knees.~~
- ~~(16) Any use of throws or any takedowns~~
- ~~(17) (12) Continuous dropping of mouthpiece.~~
- ~~(18) Holding and hitting.~~
- ~~(19) (13) Intentional evasion of contact.~~
- ~~(20) Hitting or slapping with an open glove.~~

~~(21) Any sweeps not executed boot-to-boot.~~

~~(22) Not throwing any kicks. (Legal kicks are considered to be those which are attempts to land hard on a target area of the opponent's body with the intent to do damage.)~~

(14) Hair pulling.

(15) Attacking or obstructing the trachea.

(16) Clawing, pinching or twisting the flesh or grabbing the clavicle.

(17) Pulling or holding uniform below hipline.

(18) Holding ropes or fence.

(19) Small joint manipulation (e.g. twisting of fingers or toes).

(20) Groin attacks.

(21) Fish hooks.

(22) Biting.

(b) **Fouls in kickboxing.** The following tactics are fouls in kickboxing and are forbidden. Use of these tactics shall result in a warning and loss of points as determined by the referee.

(1) Arm bars.

(2) Grabbing or holding onto an opponent's leg or foot, and grabbing or holding onto any other part of the body.

(3) Punching or kicking a contestant when he or she is down. A contestant is down when any part of his or her body, other than his or her feet, touch the floor. His or her

opponent may continue to attack until the contestant has touched the floor with any part of the body other than the feet.

(4) Leg Checking. (Extending the leg to check an opponent's leg or to prevent him from kicking.).

(5) Purposely going down without being hit.

(6) Any use of throws or any takedowns.

(7) Holding and hitting.

(8) Hitting or slapping with an open glove.

(9) Palm heel strikes to the front of the face (using the heel of the palm of the hand to deliver a blow to the face).

(c) **Fouls in martial arts (non-kickboxing).** In any martial arts contest other than kickboxing, the following tactics are fouls and are forbidden. Use of these tactics shall result in a warning and loss of points as determined by the referee.

(1) Kicking the head of a contestant when he or she is down.

(2) Spiking (purposely driving an opponent straight to the ring floor on his head or neck from an upright and vertical position).

(3) Using knees to the head of an opponent who is not standing.

(4) Putting a finger into any orifice or into any cut or laceration of an opponent.

(5) Stomping an opponent when the opponent is down.

~~(b) One or more of the following fouls shall result in disqualification:~~

~~(1) Groin kicks or punches.~~

~~(2) Arm bars.~~

~~(3) Kicking against any joint.~~

~~(4) Intentional head butts.~~

~~(5) Use of elbows.~~

~~(c)~~ (d) In addition to or in lieu of losing points, Any any contestant guilty of any of the foul tactics listed in subsection (a) above this section that are applicable to the contestant's sport in a contest may be disqualified, his or her purse may be withheld from payment, and the contestant may be suspended. Disposition of the purse and the penalty to be imposed upon the contestant shall be determined by action of the commission.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640, 18765 and 18768, Business and Professions Code.

523. Ring.

(a) For kickboxing contests, the ring or fighting area shall meet the requirements of Rules 311 through 313, inclusive. For all other types of martial arts bouts, the ring or fighting area shall meet the requirements set forth below in this section.

(b) The ring or fighting area shall be no smaller than 18' by 18' and no larger than 32' by 32'. The ring floor or floor of the fighting area shall be padded in a manner approved by the commission, consistent with the requirements of section 18724 of the code. Padding shall extend beyond the ring or fighting area and over the edge of the platform. The ring or fighting area shall have a canvas covering. Vinyl or other plastic rubberized covering will not be permitted.

(c) The ring platform shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and shall have suitable steps or ramp for use by the fighters. Ringside tables shall be no higher than ring platform level. Ring posts shall be of metal, not more than 6" in diameter.

extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58" above the ring floor, and shall be properly padded in a manner approved by the commission.

(d) The ring shall be enclosed by a fence made of such material as will not allow a fighter to fall out or break through it on to the floor or spectators, including but not limited to vinyl-coated chain link. However, the enclosure shall not obstruct or limit the supervision and regulation of the bout by the officials or commission representatives. All metal parts shall be covered and padded in a manner approved by the commission and shall not be abrasive to the fighters.

Note: Authority cited: Section 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18724 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

524. Sanitation.

The promoter of the event is responsible for ensuring that acceptable sanitary standards are met with respect to dressing rooms, water bottles, towels or other equipment. Physicians and commission representatives shall specifically check at every event for violations of these rules. The ring shall be swept, dry-mopped, or otherwise adequately cleaned before the event and prior to each fight.

Note: Authority cited: Section 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Section 18765, Business and Professions Code.

530. Communication of Counting for Knockdowns--Kickboxing.

As soon as a fighter in a kickboxing contest has been knocked down, the official timekeeper shall begin calling the count (from 1 to 10) while the referee directs the opponent to a neutral corner. After the referee has directed the opponent to a neutral

corner, he shall return to the fallen fighter and shall count over him, picking up the count from the timekeeper.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

531. Standing Eight-Count—Kickboxing.

The referee may, at his discretion, administer an eight-count to a contestant in a kickboxing contest who is in trouble but who is still standing. He shall direct the opponent to a neutral corner, then begin counting from 1 to 8, examining the contestant in trouble as he counts. If, after completing the standing eight-count, the referee determines that the contestant is not able to continue, he shall stop the contest and declare the opponent the winner by technical knockout.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

533. Championship Matches and Exhibitions.

(a) Recognizing that different forms of martial arts exist, notwithstanding any rule in this division to the contrary, the commission may, in its discretion, authorize alternate rules or provisions from time to time for full contact martial arts championships and exhibitions so long as the safety and welfare of the contestants and the public are not jeopardized.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18763, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 18640 and 18765, Business and Professions Code.

DATED: _____

ARMANDO GARCIA
Executive Officer
California State Athletic Commission